

RECEIVED

MAY 15 9 16 AM '01

POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

ORDER NO. 1313

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL RATE COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners: George A. Omas, Vice Chairman;  
Dana B. Covington; Ruth Y. Goldway;  
and W.H. "Trey" LeBlanc, III

Standards of Conduct

Docket No. RM2001-1

## NOTICE AND ORDER ADOPTING FINAL RULE

(Issued May 15, 2001)

On February 7, 2001, the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking proposing to delete Rule 103(b) [39 CFR § 3000.735.103(b)] from the Commission's Standards of Conduct. See Order No. 1303 published in the Federal Register on Friday, February 23, 2001 [66 FR 11242-43].

Rule 103(b) was a *de minimis* rule. It provided that security interests held by a Commission employee that were valued below a certain amount would receive a different level of scrutiny for conflicts of interest than security interests valued above the specified amount. The Notice observed that this provision had been superceded by, and become duplicative of, government-wide ethical standards and screening procedures. To conform the Commission's Standards of Conduct with government-wide ethics rules and financial disclosure procedures, the Commission proposed that Rule 103(b) be deleted.

The Notice provided a 30-day period from the date of its publication in the Federal Register for public comment. No comments were received. Accordingly, the proposal is adopted as proposed.

Rule 103(b) [39 CFR § 3000.735.103(b)] is hereby deleted from the Commission's Standards of Conduct. Rule 103(a) will be redesignated Rule 103.

It is ordered:

1. Paragraph (b) shall be deleted from Rule 103 of the Commission's Standards of Conduct, effective upon publication of this Order in the *Federal Register*.
2. Rule 103(a) of the Commission's Standards of Conduct shall be redesignated Rule 103.
3. The Acting Secretary is directed to cause this Final Rule to appear in the *Federal Register*.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

  
Steven W. Williams  
Acting Secretary